

METHOD FOR FACILITATING PRODUCT
CONFIGURATION USING COMPONENTS FROM A SET

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

5 A method is provided to facilitate configuration of
one of a plurality of different products from a set of
components (TABLE 2) which can be selectively combined in
different ways to form a plurality of different component
combinations that each serve as a respective one of the
products. An inventory list is prepared (191, TABLE 2),
and then a component information package is prepared (192,
TABLE 3). A determination is then made (193, TABLE 4) as
10 to whether each component in the inventory list corresponds
to one or more of first, second and third component classes
(TABLE 1) that are different. One or more criteria sets
(196) are then developed to define a plurality of criteria
states which each correspond to a valid combination of
15 components from the second and/or third classes that
represents a respective product. Then, a flowchart is
prepared (197, FIGURE 8) to diagrammatically represent the
criteria set and the combinations of components which
correspond to the respective states of the criteria set.

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